लाला लाजपत राय: मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि क्या इस स्कीम को आगे चलाने में नाबार्ड भी हिस्सा ले रही है और अगर हिस्सा ले रही है तो इस स्कीम में पंजाब के लिए कितना पैसा दिया जाएगा और उसके ऊपर इंटरेस्ट क्या होगा?

श्री अजित सिंह: अब लोन्स की बात जो आप पूछ रहे हैं उसके फिगर्स तो हमारे पास नहीं है। लेकिन जहां केन्द्रीय स्कीम है इसमें ज्यादातर जो लोन की स्कीम होता है उसमें नाबार्ड हिस्सा लेती है।

Ban on plastic carry bags

*71. DR. ABRAR AHMED:†
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state what steps Government have taken to ban the manufacture, distribution and sale of plastic carry bags?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Government has taken a number of steps to regulate the manufacture, sale and use of plastic carry bags. These include:

(i) The Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage Rules, 1999, has been notified on 2nd September, 1999 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. These rules prohibit the use of recycled plactic bags for storing, carrying, dispensing, or packaging of foodstuffs. The rules also specify that the minimum thickness of carry bags made of virgin plastics or recycled plastics shall not be less than 20 microns.

(ii) A Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of the Former Chief Justice of India, Justice Ranganath Misra to look into the problems relating to plastic waste disposal. In pursuance of the recommendations of the Committee, a draft amendment to the Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage Rules 1999 has been notified on 1st July 2002. As per the draft rules, no person shall manufacture, distribute or sell carry bags made of virgin or recycled plastics below 8 x 12 inches in size. The draft amendments

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. Abrar Ahmed.

also have a provision for registration of units manufacturing plastic carry bags or containers with the State Pollution Control Boards.

(iii) The Government has also notified the Municipal Solid wastes (Management and Handling) Rules 2000 on 25th September 2000. These rules apply to every municipal authority responsible for collection, segregation, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of municipal solid wastes.

डा॰ अबरार अहमद: सर, प्लास्टिक थैलियों के उपयोग को रोकने के लिए माननीय मंत्री जी ने स्टेप्स लिए हैं। वे काफी अच्छे हैं। लेकिन मैं एक बात माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहूंगा कि इस सदन के सदस्य माननीय रंगनाथ मिश्र जी की अध्यक्षता में एक समिति बनी थी जैसाकि उत्तर में दिया है। उसमें 8 '' x 12 '' साइज से कम के पोलीथीन बैग्स बनाने पर पाबंदी की बात थी। लेकिन उनका अभी तक भी निर्माण हो रहा है। इसके अलावा जो बड़े बैग हैं जिनमें गांव के अंदर सामान भर कर ले जाते हैं और बाद में इनके फैंकने से, उनके खाने से जानवरों की मृत्यु हो जाती है और इससे जमीन भी बिगड़ रही है, तो उसके लिए माननीय मंत्री जी क्या कर रहे हैं?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, it is a fact that we had set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Justice Ranganath Misra, last year. Hon. Misraji has made a recommendation to ban the import of plastic waste. There should be a scheme for collection of plastic materials from the manufacturers. The Recycled Plastics Manufacture and Usage Rules provide for confiscation and seizure of materials manufactured, awareness raising and support for research and development.

Sir, so far as 8 x 12" bags are concerned, we had issued a draft notification last year. If it is found vague, a final notification will be issued. Many public organisations wanted to know how the ordinary people could understand whether it has a thickness of 20 microns, and so on. We are going to clarify this in the final notification stating that 50 bags of 8 x12 inches will have 105 grams minimum. We are going to issue the notification within a week.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, he has not mentioned anything about the rural areas. He has not taken up the subject at all.

डा॰ अबरार अहमद: सभापति महोदय, मैं दूसरा प्रश्न आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि पोलीथीन बैग के उपयोग को रोकने के लिए इसके विकल्प के रूप में आप कौन से प्रोडक्ट या उत्पादन को प्रोत्साहन दे रहे हैं जिसके उपलब्ध होने पर पोलीथीन बैग का उपयोग रुक सके?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: The recommendation of the Ministry of Environment is to use jute bags manufactured out of textile materials, and so on. As far as plastic materials are concerned, we have banned the use of plastic bags only up to a thickness of 20 microns.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sukhdev Singh Libra. He is not here.

SHRI K.M. KHAN: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, keeping in view the hazardous effects of the plastic bags, how the Government proposes to create awareness amongst the distributors and the public. Do you have any plan to bring forward a legislation for banning the usages of plastic bags in the country?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, we have already banned the usage of plastic bags up to a thickness of 20 microns.

Convention on Rights of the Child

*72. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI SHABANA AZMI:†

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's first periodic report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child observed that India lacked separate legislation to deal with such cases;

(b) if so, whether the report prepared by the Department of Women and Child Development is to be submitted to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child;

(c) if so, what are the other recommendations of the report; and

(d) whether Government are considering any legislation to deal with child abuse cases?

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†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Shabana Azmi.